

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Tamika R. Montgomery-Reeves, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 1183, Tamika R. Montgomery-Reeves, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Tina Smith, Michael F. Bennet, Christopher A. Coons, Margaret Wood Hassan, Tim Kaine, Ben Ray Lujan, Tammy Duckworth, Jack Reed, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Angus S. King, Jr., Patty Murray, Catherine Cortez Masto, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Martin Heinrich.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1146.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Dana M. Douglas, of Louisiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 1146, Dana M. Douglas, of Louisiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Jeff Merkley, Tina Smith, Sheldon

Whitehouse, Benjamin L. Cardin, Maria Cantwell, Amy Klobuchar, Jon Ossoff, Mark Kelly, Jacky Rosen, Brian Schatz, Mazie Hirono, Angus S. King, Jr., Thomas R. Carper, Sherrod Brown, Tim Kaine.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, December 5, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask that the scheduled vote occur immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Doris L. Pryor, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

#### VOTE ON PRYOR NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Pryor nomination?

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 60, nays 31, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 373 Ex.]

#### YEAS—60

Baldwin	Duckworth	Menendez
Bennet	Durbin	Merkley
Blumenthal	Feinstein	Murkowski
Blunt	Gillibrand	Murray
Booker	Graham	Ossoff
Braun	Hassan	Padilla
Cantwell	Heinrich	Peters
Capito	Hirono	Portman
Cardin	Kaine	Reed
Carper	Kelly	Romney
Casey	King	Rosen
Cassidy	Klobuchar	Rounds
Collins	Lujan	Sanders
Coons	Manchin	Schatz
Cornyn	Markey	Schumer
Cortez Masto	McConnell	Shaheen

Sinema  
Smith  
Stabenow  
Tester

Tillis  
Van Hollen  
Warner  
Warren

Whitehouse  
Wicker  
Wyden  
Young

#### NAYS—31

Blackburn  
Boozman  
Burr  
Cotton  
Crapo  
Cruz  
Daines  
Ernst  
Fischer  
Grassley  
Hagerty

Hawley  
Hoeven  
Hyde-Smith  
Inhofe  
Johnson  
Kennedy  
Lankford  
Lee  
Lummis  
Marshall  
Moran

Paul  
Sasse  
Scott (FL)  
Scott (SC)  
Shelby  
Sullivan  
Thune  
Toomey  
Tuberville

#### NOT VOTING—9

Barrasso  
Brown  
Cramer

Hickenlooper  
Leahy  
Murphy

Risch  
Rubio  
Warnock

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The Senator from Nevada.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRIBUTE TO DEBORAH YETTER

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, few things ensure honesty in State and local government as effectively as a tenacious local journalist. Though the ranks of our Nation's small and mid-sized newspapers have shrunk in recent years, these dogged reporters still stalk the halls of State capitol buildings and city halls, ready to pull back the curtain on government officials and bring harsh sunlight to murky backrooms.

In Kentucky, the Louisville Courier-Journal's Deborah Yetter has been our consummate local journalist for nearly four decades, breaking news and exposing government scandals, all for the voters' benefit. Deborah retired from her role this November, earning praise and accolades from all around the Commonwealth. Today, I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in adding my voice to that chorus and congratulating Deborah on her retirement.

Deborah has been reporting on Kentucky's government since she first graduated college, starting her career in eastern Kentucky and honing her skills at Harlan County's Tri-City News. At that weekly, she focused on conditions in local coal mines, reported on endemic unemployment and poverty in the area, and covered local officials. Her work attracted attention from Louisville, where she moved in 1984 to

work for the Louisville Times. That paper merged with the Courier-Journal in 1987, and Deborah has been with Kentucky's flagship newspaper ever since.

Early on in her career, Deborah developed a deep well of understanding of the functions of State and local government, paying special attention to issues affecting Kentucky's most vulnerable. She covered abuses in the systems caring for the Commonwealth's children, elderly, and disabled, offering a voice to communities that often lacked one of their own. Through her stories, she moved public officials to improve Kentucky's juvenile detention centers, child protection system, facilities housing adults with intellectual disabilities, and mental health services. Often, her work ran up against obstinate public officials who were loath to release sensitive information to the public. She took them to court and won.

First as a local official in Jefferson County and then as a Senator representing Kentuckians statewide, I have had several opportunities to work with Deborah over the past four decades. In our interactions she was always tough but fair, a standard she maintained throughout her career. That integrity won her recognition in Kentucky and beyond, including two Pulitzer Prizes, the University of Kentucky's James Madison Award for Service to the First Amendment, and induction into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame. When she made her retirement public, colleagues and advocates from around the Commonwealth offered praise for her 38 years of hard work. Vulnerable Kentuckians everywhere are better off because of her reporting on their behalf.

Deborah plans to use her retirement to spend more time with her three children, who now all live out-of-state, and her new grandchild. She looks forward to dedicating more hours to volunteering at the YMCA, singing in the St. James Catholic Church choir, and working with children at the St. James School. Even after leaving the Courier-Journal, she will continue to fight for good in Kentucky. On behalf of the entire Senate, I thank Deborah for her service to Kentucky and wish her well in the next chapter of her life.

Mr. President, the Louisville Courier-Journal paid tribute to Deborah Yetter's retirement in a recent article. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Louisville Courier-Journal, Nov. 15, 2022]

**PULITZER-WINNING REPORTER DEBORAH YETTER, PROTECTOR OF KENTUCKY'S CHILDREN, RETIRES**

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Deborah Yetter, whose tenacious reporting on abuse, neglect and children's welfare spurred greater protections for Kentucky's most vulnerable residents, has retired after 38 years in the industry.

Yetter's final day at The Courier Journal was Nov. 11.

"Debby has received many well-deserved honors, awards and accolades during her almost four decades as a journalist, but the Courier Journal family will miss her for so much more than her stellar reporting," Executive Editor Mary Irby-Jones said.

"She is caring and compassionate, and many young journalists in our newsroom have benefited from her wisdom," Irby-Jones said. "I have had the privilege of working with some top-notch journalists, and Debby is among the best."

Yetter's longtime colleague, retired state-house reporter Tom Loftus, said Yetter "was a rare reporter who, to sum it up in one sentence, focused on the needy."

Indeed, Yetter's coverage of Kentucky's social services gave voice to the most marginalized in society, including children, the disabled and those with mental illnesses:

Her stories on the appalling conditions in the state's juvenile justice centers led to a federal civil rights investigation and sweeping changes in the state system, including a new emphasis on treatment and rehabilitation instead of punishment and confinement.

Her series called "Preying on Seniors" uncovered horrendous cases of abuse, neglect and a poor system of state care, leading to several changes in state law aimed at better protecting seniors and prosecuting their abusers.

Her stories examining the confidentiality of Kentucky's child protection system—and her push to get The Courier Journal to join litigation forcing the state to release records of its actions in abuse cases—led to a major open-records victory.

Now vital records about how well the state protects children in abuse and neglect cases are accessible. These stories also prompted the state to create an outside oversight panel to review child deaths from abuse and neglect.

That panel has since provided critical oversight of cases that likely would have escaped public notice, including the case of a 16-year-old boy with autism who in 2014 suffered two fractured femurs, a near-fatal injury, in a supposedly safe restraint at a Jefferson County public school.

Late Courier Journal editor David Hawpe called her "a shining light in state government reporting."

"Her work has had a direct, powerful impact on the lives of Kentuckians—especially defenseless children who suffer at the hands of incompetent and irresponsible state bureaucrats," he said in 2017 when Yetter was awarded the James Madison Award for Service to the First Amendment by the University of Kentucky.

Yetter, a University of Louisville and Northwestern University graduate, began her journalism career in Eastern Kentucky, first as an instructor at Southeast Community College and later as a freelance reporter for The Courier Journal and as managing editor of the Tri-City News, a weekly in Harlan County. During that time, she covered stories ranging from coal mine strikes to poverty and unemployment and local politics.

The Louisville native joined The Louisville Times in April 1984, later moving to The Courier Journal in 1987 after it merged with the Times.

During her more than three decades at the Louisville newspapers, Yetter covered transportation, county government, federal courts, health, social services and the state legislature. She also spent time as an editorial writer.

In 1994, Yetter began a series of investigative stories about horrid conditions in the state's centers for juvenile offenders.

Through her reporting on a largely unseen and confidential system, she exposed poorly staffed facilities where youths were routinely locked in isolation cells, beaten by other youths and staff and denied adequate medical care and mental health treatment.

The stories triggered a civil rights investigation by the U.S. Justice Department in 1995 and led to sweeping reforms in the state system under a five-year federal consent decree.

In 2009, she produced a three-day series called "Children in Crisis" outlining how years of underfunding, poor management and excessive confidentiality around child protection had created a crisis in child welfare in Kentucky.

Jennifer Hancock, president and CEO for Volunteers of America Mid-States, said Yetter's departure will be felt throughout the commonwealth.

"She has a uniquely skillful approach to covering the most complex child welfare issues of our time," Hancock said.

Yetter also spent time reporting on problems in the state's system for vulnerable adults, including those with intellectual disabilities. Yetter's coverage included extensive reporting in 2006 and 2007 on Oakwood, a problem-ridden residential facility in rural Kentucky marked with years of abuse and mistreatment of residents.

Following Yetter's reporting, the state replaced the out-of-state management company running Oakwood with a Kentucky nonprofit agency experienced in care of people with mental illnesses and intellectual disabilities.

Yetter was part of The Courier Journal team that earned a Pulitzer Prize for coverage of the Carrollton bus crash in 1988, when 27 people were killed after a collision with a drunken driver. In 2020, she was again part of a Pulitzer effort, this time for staff reporting on former Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin's flurry of criminal pardons during his last days in office.

Yetter in 2015 was awarded the Louisville Chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women's "Pathway to Justice" award for coverage of child abuse and neglect. Yetter also won numerous other awards for her coverage of children, elders and people with disabilities or mental illnesses.

She was inducted into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame in 2022, a recognition that her colleagues stressed was long overdue.

Yetter's departure "leaves a tremendous void" in Kentucky journalism, said Bennie Ivory, Courier Journal executive editor from 1997-2013. The depth of Yetter's knowledge about the commonwealth's social services was "unmatched," he said.

"Political leaders knew Debby knew more about children's welfare than they did, so they couldn't bull her," said Terry Brooks, executive director for Kentucky Youth Advocates.

Yetter had a special knack for covering "the peoples" stories, said Sheila Schuster, a mental health and disability advocate.

Schuster worked closely with Yetter in 2017 when then-Gov. Bevin vetoed a bill known as "Tim's Law." The bill, named for a Lexington man who died after a long battle with mental illness, was meant to stop the revolving door of jails, hospitals and homelessness for the mentally ill. Yetter reported at the time.

Yetter's human-centered coverage of the issue led lawmakers to override Bevin's veto, Schuster said.

"She was always, always willing to talk to the people affected," Schuster said. "She put a face to the problem, so that people really understood the impact."

Yetter's tenacity made her work "very, very important for public opinion," said Jon

Fleischaker, a First Amendment attorney who represents *The Courier Journal*.

"She's direct," he said. "She goes right to the heart of it, and she wouldn't take no for an answer."

Fleischaker represented *The Courier Journal* in the early 2000s when the paper, along with the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, battled the Catholic Diocese of Lexington over its coverup of clergy child abuse. The diocese tried—and failed—to hold *The Courier Journal* in contempt for publishing Yetter's story on the coverup.

Fleischaker also worked closely with Yetter during former Gov. Steve Beshear's administration, when the Cabinet for Health and Family Services sought to withhold records about severe child abuse in the state. *The Courier Journal* ultimately won its cases, with a judge ordering the cabinet to pay more than \$1 million in attorneys fees and penalties, Fleischaker said.

Yetter's reporting on the contested records exposed gruesome child fatalities, including those in the state's care.

Brooks saw Yetter's doggedness in that reporting firsthand, when one morning he watched her sprint down a government building hallway to get an interview with then-Cabinet Secretary, Janie Miller.

Miller eventually resigned.

"Kentucky's kids have had no clarion voice stronger than Debby Yetter," Brooks said. "She was as insightful as she was persistent and often was the 'canary in the coal mine,' identifying issues before they were on anyone's radar."

"The loss for Kentucky's kids is unfathomable," he added.

Schuster agreed.

"Like so many, I'm happy for her and sad for the rest of us."

Outside of work, Yetter is a longtime member of the YMCA and served for several years on a member's committee to review Y programs and services. She also has been a member of St. James Catholic Church for more than 30 years. She sings in the choir and has volunteered on parish committees and projects including one to restore the historic church and school. She also served on the St. James School committee and volunteered at the school when her children were enrolled, including working in the lunch room one day a week.

Yetter said she is looking forward to visiting her three children, each of whom live out of state, as well as her 1-year-old grandchild. She said she is ready for a break and to "not always be on a deadline."

"I love what I do and I think it's important," Yetter said. "There's never going to be a good time to leave."

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the *RECORD* the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such

annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the *RECORD*, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0T-22. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 20-40 of July 6, 2020.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,  
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0T-22

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(B)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of France.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 20-40; Date: July 6, 2020; Military Department: Navy.

(iii) Description: On July 6, 2020, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 20-40, of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of three (3) E-2D Advanced Hawkeye Aircraft, ten (10) T-56-427A engines (6 installed and 4 spares), three (3) AN/APY-9 radar assemblies, four (4) AN/ALQ-217 electronic support measure systems (3 installed and 1 spare), three (3) AN/AYK-27 Integrated Navigation Channels and Display Systems, five (5) Link-16 (MIDS-JTRS) Communications Systems (3 installed and 2 spares), ten (10) Embedded GPS/INS (E(G1) Devices (6 installed and 4 spares), four (4) AN/APX-122(A) and AN/APX-123(A) Identification, Friend or Foe systems (3 installed and 1 spare) and one (1) Joint Mission Planning System. Also included were Common Systems Integration Laboratories with Test Equipment, one in Melbourne, FL, and the other in France; air and ground crew equipment; support equipment; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; transportation; training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor logistics, engineering, and technical support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost was \$2 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$1.3 billion of this total.

On April 5, 2022, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 22-0E of one (1) Tactics Trainer—Weapon Systems (TT) (MDE). Also included were additional training devices, spares, and services. The addition of these items resulted in a net increase in MDE cost of \$42 million, resulting in a revised MDE cost of \$1.35 billion. The total estimated case value increased to \$2.1 billion.

This transmittal reports the inclusion of one (1) additional Multifunctional Information Distribution System Joint Tactical Radio System (MIDS-JTRS) terminal (MDE). The estimated total value of the added item is \$240,000 but will not result in a change to the previously notified MDE total of \$1.35 billion. The total estimated case value will remain \$2.1 billion.

(iv) Significance: The proposed sale will improve France's ongoing E-2D acquisition. It will directly support France's capabilities

for Electronic Warfare, air safety, NATO operations, and interoperability with U.S. forces.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally, which is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to additional items reported here.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: December 5, 2022.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the *RECORD* the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the *RECORD*, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 22-0V. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 09-75 of January 29, 2010.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,  
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 22-0V

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(c), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO).

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 09-75; Date: January 29, 2010; Military Department: Army.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On January 29, 2010, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 09-75, of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of 114 PATRIOT Advanced Capability (PAC-3) missiles, 3 AN/MPQ-65 Radar Sets, 1 AN/MSQ-133 Information and Coordination Centrals, 1 Tactical Command Station, 3 Communication Relay Groups, 3 AN/MSQ-132 Engagement Control